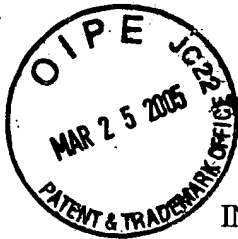


IFW



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Ayoub et. al

Serial No.: 10/615,269

Filed: August 10, 2004

For: Method for Exploitation of Gas Hydrates

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner:

Docket No.: 56.0657

TRANSMISSION OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R §§ 1.97(g),(h), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the receipt of a first office action on the merits, and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R

§ 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these materials, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Schlumberger Deposit Account No. 04-1579 (56.0657).

Applicants respectfully request that the listed document be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,



Tim Curington
Reg. No.: 45,944
Attorney for Applicants

Date: 3/21/05

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Form PTO-1449 (modified)

Atty. Docket No.
56.0657Serial No.
10/915,269

List of Patents and Publications for Applicant's

Applicant: Ayoub et al.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Filing Date:
August 10, 2004Group:
3672U.S. Patent Documents
*See Page 1*Foreign Patent Documents
*See Page 1*Other Art
See Page 1

U.S. Patent Documents

| Exam. Init. | Ref. Des. | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Sub Class | Filing Date of App. |
|-------------|-----------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|-------|-----------|---------------------|
| | A1 | 6,691,785 | Feb. 17, 2004 | Patel | 166 | 375 | Aug. 15, 2001 |
| | A2 | 6,352,119 | Mar. 5, 2002 | Patel | 166 | 386 | May 12, 2000 |
| | A3 | 5,286,109 | Feb. 15, 1994 | Hanscombe et al | 374 | 119 | Feb. 16, 1993 |
| | A4 | | | | | | |
| | A5 | | | | | | |

Foreign Patent Documents

| Exam. Init. | Ref. Des. | Document Number | Date | Country | Class | Sub Class | Translation Yes/No |
|-------------|-----------|-----------------|------|---------|-------|-----------|--------------------|
| | B1 | | | | | | |

Other Art (Including Author, Title, Date Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

| Exam. Init. | Ref. Des. | Citation |
|-------------|-----------|--|
| | C1 | <i>Probing Gas Hydrate Deposits</i> – Robert L. Kleinberg and Peter G. Brewer, Journal-American Scientist – 2001, Vol 89, pages 244-251 |
| | C2 | <i>Dynamics of Reformation and Repalcement of CO2 and CH4 Gas Hydrates</i> – Takeshi Komai, Yoshitaka Yamamoto and Kotaro Ohga in Annals of New York Academy of Sciences Vol 912, New York, 2000 |

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EXAMINER: INITIAL IF REFERENCE CONSIDERED, WHETHER OR NOT CITATION IS IN CONFORMANCE WITH MPEP609; DRAW LINE THROUGH CITATION IF NOT IN CONFORMANCE AND NOT CONSIDERED. INCLUDE COPY OF THIS FORM WITH NEXT COMMUNICATION TO APPLICANT.



| | | |
|---|------------------------|-----------------|
| TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number | 10/915,269 |
| | Filing Date | August 10, 2004 |
| | First Named Inventor | Joseph Ayoub |
| | Art Unit | 3672 |
| | Examiner Name | |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | Attorney Docket Number | 56.0657 |

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|--|---------------|
| Firm or Individual name | Tim Curington |
| Signature | |
| Date | 3/21/05 |

| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING | |
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| Typed or printed name | Pushpa Mohan |
| Signature | |
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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